Danville, Ky. Oct 23 '57.

To the Society of Inquiry, Princeton Seminary.

Dear Brethren, As Society of Religious Inquiry has been in operation in our Seminary, ever since the Institution has had an existence, and one of the most pleasant features of our exercises is reading letters from other associations of a similar character. And in now writing to your body I but discharge a duty imposed upon me by our Society, with the earnest hope that you will response to us, and that a regular correspondence may be the result. We feel the need of having a word of encouragement from those in other Seminaries of sacred learning, ~~who~~ whose pursuits and hopes are similar to our own, and we love to have narrated to us the different experiences which attend the life of those whose sympathies are

like air only and whose hearts are inspired by the same hopes.

Our Seminary session has opened with 38 students, nearly all of whom are members of our Society of Inquiry. Our custom is to meet on the Friday night preceding the first Sabbath in each month and have a report read, on the history of some mission, and then have a general conference upon some topic connected with the Missionary work. We have a public meeting on the first Sabbath of every month when an address is delivered by some member of the graduating class.

I am not prepared to say that any particular interest is manifested in the Missionary work. Of course there is a general feeling of interest, but I do not know that there are any who have the foreign field especially in view. The demands made by our own

western country are so pressing, that most of our students seem to look that way more than in any other quarter. We all hope to be guided by the Spirit of God, that he might direct our steps aright. I could that all of us could feel willing to undergo any pain and privation for the sake of our Master's service. The destitution of heathen lands is to be filled, - if filled at all, - by those who are now engaged in preparing for the work of the ministry. And O! that a true spirit of prayer might pervade our hearts, asking for a greater measure of consecration, and a more intense love for the souls of our dying fellow men. Often in our conferences do we consider what is the personal duty of each one of us, and in surveying the different parts of the great field, and seeing how pressing are the calls made for more laborers, coming from every quarter, we feel

truly that we must have the guidance of the Spirit, and not be actuated by our own personal preferences. Are we then willing to give ourselves unreservedly to the Lord, and take any part of his great vineyard that he may assign us? If we do, then our steps will be guided aright and his blessing will crown our labors. Let us pray for one another. Though we are identified with different institutions of learning, yet we are all devoted to the interests of the same Church, and all laboring for the same glorious results. Should we not then pray for one another and mingle our prayers for the advancement of the blessed kingdom of Christ upon earth. We hope to hear from you very soon. Any little facts respecting your prospects &c, will be gladly received by us. Let our correspondence be frequent, and let us endeavor to cheer each other by the assurance that our sympathies are one; May the Lord smile upon all our efforts to do his will.

Yours in the bonds of X.-

Henry Mortyn Scudder